

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

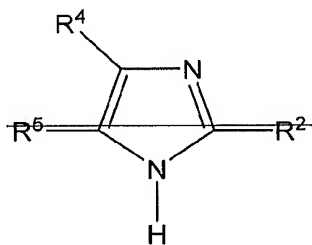
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1-9 (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A polycondensable isocyanate-polyol two-component polyurethane (2K) coating composition ~~consisting of, comprising:~~

- a) in a first container, a first component comprising an addition compound of an aliphatic isocyanate and a blocking agent comprising a five-membered nitrogenous aromatic heterocycle containing a nitrogen-carbon-nitrogen sequence with the structure of -N(H)-C(-)=N-, wherein said heterocycle is substituted by at least one hydrocarbon chain exhibiting, on average, from 1 to 10 carbon atoms per heterocycle at least one blocked isocyanate; and
- b) in a second container, a second component comprising at least one polyol, ~~wherein said at least one blocked isocyanate is an addition product of at least one aliphatic isocyanate and at least one blocking agent of the formula~~



~~wherein  $R^2$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^5$ , independently, are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, a linear or branched  $C_4$ - $C_{40}$  aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group and a phenyl group,~~  
~~with the proviso that at least one of said substituents is a linear or branched  $C_4$ - $C_{40}$  aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group or a phenyl group~~  
wherein said composition is not crosslinkable at ambient temperature for at least 8 hours, and is physically stable as indicated by being devoid of phase separation and crystallization during storage of the coating composition.

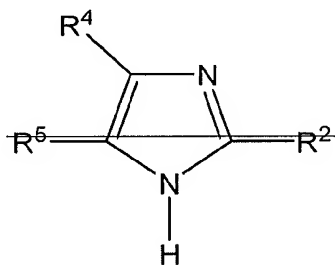
11. (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in claim 10, wherein said substituent is situated on a carbon surrounded by two nitrogens so that said sequence becomes -N(H)-C(R)=N-, wherein R is a hydrocarbon chain exhibiting from 1 to 10 carbon atoms  ~~$R^2$  is selected from the group consisting of a linear or branched  $C_4$ - $C_{40}$  aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group.~~

12. (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in claim 10, wherein said hydrocarbon chain contains from 1 to 5 carbon atoms per five-membered nitrogenous aromatic heterocycle ~~at least one of  $R^2$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  is a linear or branched  $C_2$ - $C_5$  aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group.~~

13. (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in claim 11, wherein R contains from 1 to 5 carbon atoms per five-membered nitrogenous aromatic heterocycle

~~R<sup>2</sup> is a linear or branched C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group.~~

14. (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in claim 10, wherein said addition compound ~~at least one blocked isocyanate~~ is an addition compound of an aliphatic isocyanate and a plurality of blocking agents, ~~wherein at least one of the blocking agents is a blocking agent of the formula~~

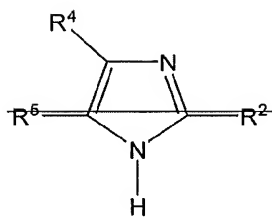


~~where R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are as defined in Claim 10, and~~

wherein the mean number of carbon atoms in the blocking agents per blocked isocyanate functional group at least equal to 3.5.

15. (Previously Presented) The composition as claimed in claim 10, wherein the addition compound is prepared *in situ*.

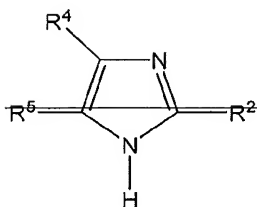
16. (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in claim 10, wherein the ~~said at least one blocked isocyanate is an~~ addition compound is a compound blocked by more than one blocking agent of an aliphatic isocyanate and a plurality of blocking agents, ~~wherein at least one of the blocking agents is a blocking agent of the formula~~



where  $R^2$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  are as defined in Claim 10, and in that, among the blocking agents, said five-membered nitrogenous aromatic heterocycles said blocking agents of the above formula represent at least 50% in equivalents of all of the blocking agents.

17. (Currently Amended) A polycondensable isocyanate-polyol two-component polyurethane (2K) coating composition consisting of comprising:

- a) in a first container, a first component comprising an at least partially aliphatic isocyanate; and a blocking agent comprising a five-membered nitrogenous aromatic heterocycle exhibiting a nitrogen-carbon-nitrogen sequence of -N(H)-C(-)=N-; wherein said heterocycle is substituted with at least one hydrocarbon chain exhibiting from 1 to 10 carbon atoms per heterocycle at least one blocked isocyanate; and
- b) in a second container, a second component comprising at least one polyol, wherein said at least one blocked isocyanate is an addition product of at least one partially aliphatic isocyanate and at least one blocking agent of the formula



~~wherein  $R^2$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^5$ , independently, are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, a linear or branched  $C_1$ - $C_{10}$  aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group and a phenyl group,~~

~~with the proviso that at least one of said substituents is a linear or branched  $C_1$ - $C_{10}$  aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group or a phenyl group~~

wherein said composition is not crosslinkable at ambient temperature for at least 8 hours, and is physically stable as indicated by being devoid of phase separation and crystallization during storage of the coating composition..

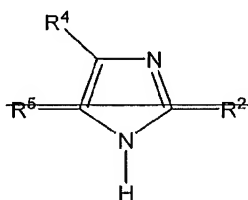
18. (Previously Presented) A coating composition produced using a two-component polyurethane as defined in claim 10.

19. (Currently Amended) A process for coating a substrate, comprising the steps of:

a) preparing a two-component polyurethane comprising:

i) supplying in a first container a first component comprising an addition compound of an aliphatic isocyanate and a blocking agent comprising a five-membered nitrogenous aromatic heterocycle containing a nitrogen-carbon-nitrogen sequence with the structure of  $-N(H)-C(-)=N-$ , wherein said heterocycle

~~is substituted by at least one hydrocarbon chain exhibiting, on average, from 1 to 10 carbon atoms per heterocycle at least one blocked isocyanate, wherein said at least one blocked isocyanate is an addition product of at least one aliphatic isocyanate and at least one blocking agent of the formula~~



~~wherein R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup>, independently, are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, a linear or branched C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>40</sub>-aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group and a phenyl group,~~

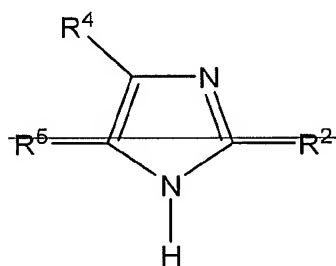
~~with the proviso that at least one of said substituents is a linear or branched C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>40</sub>-aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group or a phenyl group;~~

- ii) supplying in a second container a second component comprising at least one polyol; and
  - iii) forming a mixture of the two-component polyurethane by mixing together the contents of the first and second containers;
- b) providing a substrate;
- c) spreading a coat of said mixture of the two-component polyurethane over said substrate, and
- d) subjecting the substrate coated with the two-component polyurethane to a temperature ranging from 50°C to 120°C, for a period of time at least equal to 1/2 hour.

20. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 19, wherein the temperature ranges from 50°C to 100°C, for a period of time at most equal to 2 hours.

21. (Currently Amended) A method of preparing a two-component polyurethane comprising the step of mixing:

- a) an addition compound of an aliphatic isocyanate and a blocking agent comprising a five-membered nitrogenous aromatic heterocycle containing a nitrogen-carbon-nitrogen sequence with the structure of -N(H)-C(-)=N-, wherein said heterocycle is substituted by at least one hydrocarbon chain exhibiting, on average, from 1 to 10 carbon atoms per heterocycle ~~at least one blocked isocyanate, wherein said at least one blocked isocyanate is an addition product of at least one aliphatic isocyanate and at least one blocking agent of the formula~~



wherein R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup>, independently, are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, a linear or branched C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group and a phenyl group,

~~with the proviso that at least one of said substituents is a linear or branched C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group or a phenyl group; with~~

b) at least one polyol,

wherein said addition compound of an aliphatic isocyanate and a blocking agent is provided in a first container and said at least one polyol is provided in a second container.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein said substituent is situated on a carbon surrounded by two nitrogens so that said sequence becomes - N(H)-CR=N-, wherein R is a hydrocarbon chain exhibiting from 1 to 10 carbon atoms ~~R<sup>2</sup> is selected from the group consisting of a linear or branched C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>-aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group and a phenyl group.~~

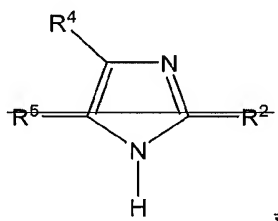
23. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein said hydrocarbon chain contains from 1 to 5 carbon atoms per five-membered nitrogenous aromatic heterocycle ~~at least one of R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> is a linear or branched C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group.~~

24. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein R contains from 1 to 5 carbon atoms per five-membered nitrogenous aromatic heterocycle ~~R<sup>2</sup> is a linear or branched C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group.~~

25. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein said addition compound ~~at least one blocked isocyanate~~ is an addition compound of an aliphatic



isocyanate and a plurality of blocking agents, ~~wherein at least one of the blocking agents is a blocking agent of the formula~~



where R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are as defined in Claim 10, and

where the mean number of carbon atoms in the blocking agents per blocked isocyanate functional group at least equal to 3.5.

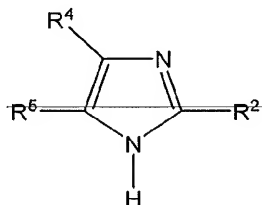
26. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the addition compound is prepared *in situ*.

27. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ composition as claimed in claim 10, wherein the addition compound is a compound blocked by more than one blocking agent and in that, among the blocking agents, said five-membered nitrogenous heterocycles represent at least 50% in equivalents of all of the blocking agents.

28. (Currently Amended) A method of preparing two-component polyurethanes comprising the step of mixing:

a) an addition compound of (i) an at least partially aliphatic isocyanate; and

(ii) a blocking agent comprising a five-membered nitrogenous aromatic heterocycle containing a nitrogen-carbon-nitrogen sequence with the structure of -N(H)-C(-)=N-, wherein said heterocycle is substituted by at least one hydrocarbon chain exhibiting, on average, from 1 to 10 carbon atoms per heterocycle; at least one blocked isocyanate, wherein said at least one blocked isocyanate is an addition product of at least one partially aliphatic isocyanate and at least one blocking agent of the formula



wherein  $R^2$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^5$ , independently, are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, a linear or branched  $C_4$ - $C_{40}$  aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group and a phenyl group,

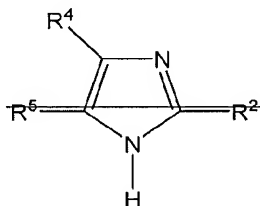
with the proviso that at least one of said substituents is a linear or branched  $C_4$ - $C_{40}$  aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group or a phenyl group; with

b) at least one polyol,

wherein upon mixing said composition is not crosslinkable at ambient temperature for at least 8 hours, and is physically stable as indicated by being devoid of phase separation and crystallization during storage of the coating composition.

29. (Currently Amended) A method of preparing a two-component (2K) polyurethane coating composition comprising:

- a) providing in a first container a first component comprising an addition compound of an aliphatic isocyanate and a blocking agent comprising a five-membered nitrogenous aromatic heterocycle containing a nitrogen-carbon-nitrogen sequence with the structure of -N(H)-C(-)=N-, wherein said heterocycle is substituted by at least one hydrocarbon chain exhibiting, on average, from 1 to 10 carbon atoms per heterocycle ~~at least one blocked isocyanate, wherein said at least one blocked isocyanate is an addition product of at least one aliphatic isocyanate and at least one blocking agent of the formula~~



~~wherein  $R^2$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^5$ , independently, are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, a linear or branched  $C_1$ - $C_{10}$  aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group and a phenyl group,~~

~~with the proviso that at least one of said substituents is a linear or branched  $C_1$ - $C_{10}$  aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group or a phenyl group;~~

- b) providing in a second container a second component comprising at least one polyol; and
- c) mixing together the contents of the first and second containers,

wherein said composition is not crosslinkable at ambient temperature for at least 8 hours, and is physically stable as indicated by being devoid of phase separation and crystallization during storage of the coating composition..

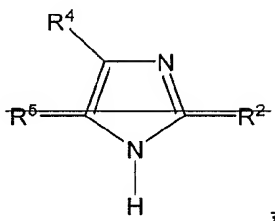
30. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein said substituent is situated on a carbon surrounded by two nitrogens so that said sequence becomes -N(H)-C(R)=N-, wherein R is a hydrocarbon chain exhibiting from 1 to 10 carbon atoms ~~R<sup>2</sup> is selected from the group consisting of a linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group and a phenyl group.~~

31. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein said hydrocarbon chain contains from 1 to 5 carbon atoms per five-membered nitrogenous aromatic heterocycle ~~at least one of R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> is a linear or branched C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group.~~

32. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 30, wherein R contains from 1 to 5 carbon atoms per five-membered nitrogenous aromatic heterocycle ~~R<sup>2</sup> is a linear or branched C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group.~~

33. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein said addition compound ~~at least one blocked isocyanate~~ is an addition compound of an aliphatic isocyanate and a plurality of blocking agents, ~~wherein at least one of the blocking~~

agents is a blocking agent of the formula

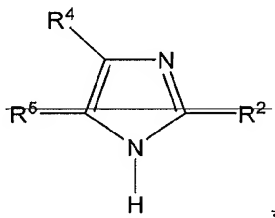


where R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are as defined in Claim 29, and

wherein the mean number of carbon atoms in the blocking agents per blocked isocyanate functional group at least equal to 3.5.

34. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the addition compound is prepared *in situ*.

35. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the said at least one blocked isocyanate is an addition compound is a compound blocked by more than one blocking agent of an aliphatic isocyanate and a plurality of blocking agents, wherein at least one of the blocking agents is a blocking agent of the formula



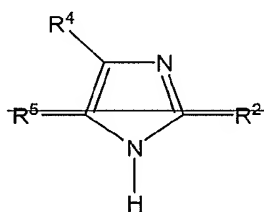
where R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are as defined in Claim 29,

and in that, among the blocking agents, said five-membered nitrogenous

aromatic heterocycles said blocking agents of the above formula represent at least 50% in equivalents of all of the blocking agents.

36. (Currently Amended) A method of preparing a two-component (2K) polyurethane coating composition comprising :

- a) providing in a first container a first component comprising at least partially aliphatic isocyanate; and a blocking agent comprising a five-membered nitrogenous aromatic heterocycle exhibiting a nitrogen-carbon-nitrogen sequence of -N(H)-C(-)=N-; wherein said heterocycle is substituted with at least one hydrocarbon chain exhibiting from 1 to 10 carbon atoms per heterocycle at least one blocked isocyanate, wherein said at least one blocked isocyanate is an addition product of at least one aliphatic isocyanate and at least one blocking agent of the formula



~~wherein R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup>, independently, are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, a linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group and a phenyl group,~~  
~~with the proviso that at least one of said substituents is a linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> aliphatic or cycloaliphatic group or a phenyl group;~~

b) providing in a second container ~~a second component comprising~~ at least one polyol; and

c) mixing together the contents of the first and second containers,

wherein said composition is not crosslinkable at ambient temperature for at least 8 hours, and is physically stable as indicated by being devoid of phase separation and crystallization during storage of the coating composition.